

## Requiring Tarrant County property-tax bills to include municipal cleanup costs

HB 3232 by T. Smith (Brimer)

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DIGEST:	HB 3232 would have required the Tarrant County tax assessor-collector to include, on request of a municipality, a separate item on annual property-tax bills for expenses incurred by the municipality for improving the sanitary condition of an owner's property. A property owner would have had to pay those expenses and any accrued interest at the time of paying annual property taxes.
GOVERNOR'S REASON FOR VETO:	"House Bill No. 3232 would require Tarrant County tax assessor-collectors to implement a costly system whereby fines written by City of Fort Worth officials for health and safety violations could be specifically listed on annual property tax bills sent to landowners. Current law provides adequate means for all Texas cities to enforce the collection of fines associated with violations of health and safety ordinances. In addition, the bill does not address the effect unpaid health and safety fines have on the status of title of the underlying property. Moreover, the bill does not adequately address issues concerning how fines would be paid by people who choose to escrow their property taxes and insurance with third parties."
RESPONSE:	Neither Rep. Todd Smith, the bill's author, nor Sen. Kim Brimer, the Senate sponsor, had a comment on the veto.
NOTES:	HB 3232 passed the House on the Local, Consent, and Resolutions Calendar and was not analyzed in a <i>Daily Floor Report</i> .